



Town of Boylston Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: **Monday, January 29, 2007**
Location: Town Hall, 221 Main Street
Time: 7:00PM – 9:10PM
Members Present: Chairman James Stanton, Roger Deal, Ken Sydow
Others Present: Suzanne Olsen, Town Administrator; Gregory Angelini, Town Counsel;
Michael Kane, *Banner* Reporter; Lori Esposito, Administrative
Assistant; Others as listed on attached sign in sheet.

Prior to the meeting the financial warrant was signed.

Following Executive session, open session meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

TurfLinks: Jim Stanton spoke with TurfLinks President Kevin Lyons. They are continuing forward with plans. Jim advised him that ERB calculated fee is not valid. It will likely be a base fee of approximately \$1K.

Appointment: Jane Fraier (241 Edgebrook Rd) – Please keep in mind for serving on a committee when appointments come up in May.

Town Administrator's Report:

- **Ralph Hagar** – Oldest citizen. Sue Olsen to pick a date and have historical society come in for the presentation.
- **Bonus Policy** – Continued for review until the February 13th meeting.
- **Ricciardi Bros. Bond (Stiles Road)** – Received notice of cancellation effective February 21, 2007. This will not go through winter, as original agreement required. Sue Olsen will notify. We need 6 additional months.
- **Driveway heating system** – 24 Maple Way (Pulte Development) – update from 12/21/06 letter received.

Building Inspector Mark Bertonassi: Monthly Report to Board

- Sept.-Dec. 2006 permit detail (spreadsheets) supplied as well.
- Complaint received regarding boats on property at 105 Shrewsbury Street. Mr. Bertonassi spoke with the owner; no bylaws are violated; ok to store boats. All are his; not storing for anyone else; all in working condition. Jim Stanton advised to respond to complainer regarding same.
- Complaint re: unregistered vehicles at 372 Sewall St. There is nothing against the bylaws except maybe 8.01 as “unsightly” as would be determined by the BOS. Mr. Stanton questioned are the vehicles operable. Mr. Bertonassi believes yes, all but maybe one. Still in violation with unregistered vehicles. Board suggests send second notice. If not addressed within 30 days, schedule hearing with BOS to determine action – unsightly.
- Unregistered motor vehicles at 220 E. Temple St. Police Department to ticket.

Quinn Engineering: Carl Hultgren (engineer)/Frank Tomaiolo (property owner).

- Currently planning a multi-tenant building at 81 Shrewsbury St. (E. Temple and Rte. 140) with a bank as main tenant. Proposed driveway to exit at E. Temple Street. Quinn Engineering is seeking approval to do work within right of way and cut a driveway.
- Mr. Hultgren showed an engineering plan to the Board and explained there is a 12 ft. elevation difference on E. Temple Street. He is proposing to cut grade down for sight distance purposes. Lot will be brought down to about 3 ft. above road level.

- Jim Stanton said the Board will need to notify abutters of a hearing to approve right of way work. They will then vote on a decision.
- Schedule February 13th for public hearing, notify Planning Board.
- Ken questioned if walk-thru of property is required – Jim says optional, not required.

Parks and Recreation: Rudy Lambracht and Deb Murphy present to provide information on recent developments in the program.

- **Sewall Beach**
 - The YMCA would be running the program, as well as carry and pay for liability insurance.
 - Cost is \$12,500 for “Y” to run beach, not including property rental. Average in past years = \$6-7K in receipts.
 - P&R recommendation: There is a possibility that West Boylston may share costs of Sewall Beach. No progress made to date with West Boylston; can’t get through yet. If West Boylston participates, they could likely break even.
 - BOS willing only to relieve ½ of the property taxes, no additional costs. Sue Olsen will provide dollar amount of taxes on the property.
- **Soccer Field Update**
 - Need more fields in the future.
 - Have an opportunity for partnership with soccer club; shared usage of fields.
 - The club would design and build fields (\$100-\$150K) in exchange for agreement for about 30 years usage. Too long per Attorney Angelini; 20 years max.
 - Town benefits would be minimum upfront cost to town and revenue via tournaments.
 - P&R is looking for permission from the BOS to solicit a partner, and are also requesting the use of Town Counsel to assist with specifics during negotiations. Jim Stanton asked Atty. Angelini if such an agreement would be subject to the bidding law; he responded yes. Jim also asked Atty. Angelini if he would meet with P&R and/or advise them on how to proceed.
 - Atty. Angelini asked if they would pursue licensing or leasing; Jim Stanton suggested the “path of least resistance”. Licensing will allow extending any existing relationship with a company. He suggests P&R speak with other towns to see how they work such agreements. Roger Deal asked if there is any possibility that potential locations are in conflict with present plans of other buildings. Sue Olsen responded no.
 - The Board agreed that a long-term plan for the development of Hillside would be a good idea.
 - Jim Stanton asked what is in the revolving fund; Rudy did not see a need to share financial information with the Board of Selectmen. Also, what about P&R’s contribution for gym/heat, etc. Rudy said the gym fees are only revenue they have to run Parks & Rec programs, can’t afford to contribute to expenses.
 - Lori Esposito to get revolving fund balance from Karen Barber.

Sue Therriault: Library update

- Trustees met with Capital Planning and Finance Committee in December to discuss various options regarding grant money.
- Financial analysis model completed. Bottom line is “break-even point” would be about 5 years (e.g., build now vs. wait).
- Decision voted by Trustees (1/10/07) to not pay back \$206K in grant money. The ramifications of this would be:
 - Cannot apply for upcoming Planning and Design grant;
 - Cannot apply for construction grant until 2021;
 - Town appropriation and private funds pay for library.
- Ideal timeline for requesting appropriation is special town meeting in Fall 2007.
- Jim advised Sue Therriault should sit down with Ellen McKay to discuss timeline of when money requested vs. when paid out.

- Ken Sydow asked is a vote required to enable the library to use the site. Attorney Angelini reviewed 10/06 warrant article. It is not specific as to land other than “Hillside”. Although it authorized the Selectmen to “allow and arrange for a use” of land at Hillside for the potential construction of a new library.
- Trustees are meeting with Finance Committee next week. Jim Stanton suggests they ask the Fin Comm. opinion re: funds.

Tap Maple Trees: Matthew Dickson (211 Linden Street) sent letter requesting permission to tap Maple trees located in the park at the end of School Street. Roger Deal motioned to allow; Ken Sydow seconded; all in favor.

Boylston Historical Commission Appointment: Chairman Bruce Symonds sent letter to the Board requesting they appoint Judith Bottom (40 School Street) to the Historical Commission as its seventh member. The Board would like to have Ms. Bottom in at their next meeting.

Retiree Health Insurance (Donna Erickson): Sue Olsen recommends allowing Ms. Erickson’s request to re-enroll due to past retirees getting coverage.

- Roger Deal asked how is it allowed – highly unusual in private sector. Is municipality different? Attorney Angelini said the difference is that the town can pass a statute specific to eligibility, enrollment, etc. He said coverage specifications could be defined more specifically for future retirees and/or change for existing retirees.
- Ken Sydow asked if employees either elect coverage or sign waiver of coverage declined when retiring? Sue Olsen not sure. Town meeting vote on 3/13/1961 that town would pay 50% of premium for retirees and dependents.
- Mr. Sydow said if group contract we have does not include anything to define limited or open enrollment, we need to change or adopt statute to define enrollment.
- Jim Stanton motioned to accept Town Administrator’s recommendation to allow Donna Erickson to enroll in town’s health plan; Mr. Sydow asked has anyone asked the Personnel Board for their recommendation? The answer was no.
- Mr. Deal’s concern is not Ms. Erickson’s legitimacy, but the precedent to be set for future retirees. Ms. Erickson (present) said that having been treasurer for 25 years, she was “shocked” to hear that the town’s policy has change. Attorney Angelini corrected her stating it is not a policy; it’s been a practice.
- Ken Sydow motioned to allow to re-enroll Donna Erickson in Town health plan; Roger Deal seconded; all in favor.
- Jim Stanton asked Roger Deal, Sue Olsen & Attorney Angelini to bring in draft retiree insurance policy to review at first March meeting.

Jon Mack appointment to Cable Committee: Mr. Mack has been a Town resident for 19 years. Briefly discussed his qualifications (provided resume) and interest in being appointed as volunteer. Roger Deal motioned to appoint to Cable Advisory Commission; Jim Stanton seconded; all in favor.

Compass Pointe: Attorney Angelini sent a letter to Jessica Venincasa regarding non-compliance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lori Esposito
Administrative Assistant